

Judges Manual

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Section 1 Responsibility

1.1 Breed Judges

- 1.1.1 The Breed Judges Panel shall, unless where otherwise specified, be the responsibility of the Breed Judges Committee.
- 1.1.2 Alterations to this manual related to breed judges is the responsibility of the National Breed Committee

1.2 Training Test Judges

- 1.2.2 The Training Test Judges Panel shall, unless where otherwise specified, be the responsibility of the Training Test Judges Committee.
- 1.2.3 Alterations to this manual related to Training Test Judges is the responsibility of the National Training Committee

Section 2 Judging Limitations

- 2.1 Judges may not judge their own dogs, dogs owned by close family members or dogs that are kept on their own property.
- 2.2 If more than one Breed Judge is officiating at a show, an officiating judge may enter his/her dog or a dog from a close family member in classes not judged by him/her.
- 2.3 Breed Judges may not judge breed shows in their nominated first clubs.
- 2.4 An aspirant judge may not enter any dog registered in his/her name or in the name of close family members at an event where the examination is being done.
- 2.5 Federation accredited judges that are invited to judge or give seminars for organisations other than the Federation must be cleared through the administration before finally accepting an invitation to judge. Application must be in writing stating the organisation that extended the invitation and all the events clearance is requested for. Clearance must include confirming the competence of the judge, be approved by the chairman of the relevant Judges Committee and must be in writing.

Section 3 Breed Judges

3.1 Appointment of Aspirant Breed Judges

- 3.1.1 The candidate is invited to become an aspirant judge by the Breed Judges Committee.
- 3.1.2 Upon acceptance the candidate must do a theoretical and practical examination with a judge appointed by the chairperson of the Judges Committee.
- 3.1.3 A pass mark of 80% is required for appointment as an aspirant judge.

3.2 Minimum Qualifications of Aspirant Breed Judges

- 3.2.1 Candidates must be fully paid-up, *bona fide* members of the Federation.
- 3.2.2 The candidate must have owned, exhibited and bred German Shepherd Dogs for a minimum period of ten (10) years.
- 3.2.3 The candidate must be able to prove to have been instrumental in successful breeding equivalent to at least the Gold Breeder's Medal award.
- 3.2.4 The candidate must be at least 28 years old.
- 3.2.5 The candidate must have been involved in German Shepherd Dog breed matters in a German Shepherd Dog specialist club, recognised by the Federation, for at least three (3) years.

3.3 Format of Aspirant Breed Judge's Course

- 3.3.1 The candidate must pass seven (7) practical examinations in an official breed show of which
 - a) At least one examination as well as the last examination will be under the chairperson of the Judges Committee or a WUSV Tutor Judge;
 - b) The remaining examinations will be under Senior Judges of the Federation Breed Surveyors.
- 3.3.2 The practical examinations must be done over a period of no longer than thirty (30) months.
- 3.3.3 If the candidate fails more than two (2) of the practical examinations, the candidate's name will be removed from the list of aspirant judges.

- 3.3.4 The candidate must timeously inform the chairperson of the Breed Judges Committee of the show the candidate wishes do an exam and who the officiating judge will be. The request must be approved by the chairperson of the Judges Committee.
- 3.3.5 The chairperson of the Judges Committee has the right to determine the format in which the aspirant judge will do each practical examination.
- 3.3.6 At no time may there be more than two aspirant judges in the ring.
- 3.3.7 An aspirant judge must be in the ring with the officiating judge for the full duration of the show.
- 3.3.8 After completion of all the practical examinations, the candidate must do a written theoretical examination under the chairperson of the Judges Committee.
- 3.3.9 If the aspirant judge is absent from an arranged examination without a valid reason, his/her name will be removed from the list of aspirant judges.

3.4 Syllabus for Aspirant Breed Judges

- 3.4.1 Examinations will be based on a syllabus provided by the Breed Judges Committee and will include
- a) Knowledge of the German Shepherd Dog and the judging thereof;
 - b) The ability to write critiques;
 - c) The ability to express critiques verbally to an audience;
 - d) Etiquette in the ring;
 - e) Knowledge of the ordinances;
 - f) The ability to judge correctly.
- 3.4.2 At least two hundred and fifty (250) dogs must be judged over the 5 practical examinations of an aspirant judge.

3.5 Appointment of Breed Judges

- 3.5.1 Once an Aspirant Judge has successfully fulfilled all the obligations as set out above, the candidate's name will be presented to the Judges Committee for final approval.
- 3.5.2 SV/WUSV accredited judges, who have immigrated to South Africa and are fully paid-up *bona fide* members in good standing of the Federation, will automatically become members of the Federation Judges Panel.

- 3.5.3 Specialist German Shepherd Dog judges from other recognised bodies who become *bona fide* members of the Federation can also become Federation judges if the Breed Judges Committee is satisfied the person is competent to be a judge. In such cases the Breed Judges Committee may set additional training requirements if the committee deems it to be necessary.
- 3.5.4 Qualifications or credits gained in the Kennel Union of South Africa after 1 June 1994 will not be recognised by the Federation.
- 3.5.5 Upon appointment a breed judge will immediately become an Honorary Life Member of the Federation.
- 3.5.6 The Breed Judges Committee may appoint current and former SV Judges who do not reside in South Africa as Foreign Based Judges.

3.6 Maintaining Full Judge's Status

- 3.6.1 Judges must judge at least one breed show every two years, with a minimum of four classes at each show.
- 3.6.2 Judges must attend at least eight breed shows per year of which three must be judged by German SV judges with the following provisos:
- a) Attending the National Breed show accounts for two shows, one show as for a local judge and one show as for a German SV judge;
 - a) Breeding two litters accounts for another two shows (one litter = one show).
- 3.6.3 Members of the Federation Judges Panel must partake and pass refresher courses as determined from time to time by the Judges Committee.

3.7 Judge's Reports

- 3.7.1 All judges must annually submit a report to the Breed Judges Committee which contains the information as set out below:
- 3.7.2 In respect of all shows attended during the year:
- a) Hosting club;
 - b) Date of Show;
 - c) Officiating judge;
 - d) Country of residence of officiating judge;
 - e) General opinion on the dogs presented at the show.

3.7.3 List also:

- a) Courses related to judging attended during the year;
- b) Judges' meetings attended during the year;
- c) Shows where assisted with teeth and testicle evaluations;
- d) Shows where acted as a foreign judge's advisor;
- e) Courses conducted during the year.

3.7.4 All reports must be submitted before 31 January the subsequent year.

3.8 Removal from Breed Judges Panel

3.8.1 The Breed Judge's Committee may transfer judges on the Breed Judges Panel to the Honorary Judges Panel who fail to comply with the above.

3.9 Honorary Judges Panel

3.9.1 Judges on the Honorary Judges Panel may not judge official breed shows, but otherwise retain all privileges of active judges:

- a) May judge endurance, puppy shows and private breed assessments;
- b) Will retain honorary life membership;
- c) May attend and participate in National Breed Committee meetings;
- d) May attend all judges' meetings and judges' seminars.

3.9.2 All judges shall be placed on the Honorary Judges Panel:

- a) Upon voluntary request thereto;
- b) Upon failing to maintain full judges' status as above.

3.9.3 The Breed Judges Committee may reinstate any person on the honorary judge's panel person to the full judge's panel if the honorary judge has maintained all requirements other than the judging of official breed shows that are required for membership of the judge's panel for at least two consecutive years.

3.10 Senior Breed Judges

3.10.1 The candidate must be a member of the Federation Judges Panel.

3.10.2 The candidate must have judged at least eight (8) official breed shows which must include at least 4 Open classes and a minimum of four hundred (400) dogs in

terms of the Federation's rules and regulations, within a period no longer than eight (8) consecutive years, or be a fully qualified SV, SV-Ausland or WUSV Judge.

3.11 Breed Surveyors

- 3.11.1 Breed Surveyors are appointed by the National Breed Committee upon the recommendation of the Breed Judges Committee. A two third's majority must agree thereto.
- 3.11.2 Candidates recommended by the Breed Judges Committee must
- a) Be accredited senior judges;
 - b) Have judged at least three shows as a senior judge;
 - c) Be fully conversant with the breed survey and the philosophy behind it (to this end an examination conducted by the Breed Judges Committee must be passed);
 - d) Have attended at least 10 surveys as an aspirant surveyor together with a recognized surveyor, five of which must have been with an SV Judge;
 - e) Have owned, presented and passed a Breed Survey with at least four dogs;
 - f) Be a Foreign Based Judge on the federations breed Judges Panel.
- 3.11.3 To maintain status, breed surveyors must attend at least six surveys per year, two of which are judged by German SV surveyors. Two of the surveys to be attended can be off-set against dogs put through a survey by the surveyor (one per dog) with the proviso that at least of two of the remaining four surveys attended must be judged by German SV surveyors.
- 3.11.4 Breed Surveyors transferred to the Honorary Judges Panel shall lose their Breed Surveyor status with immediate effect.

Section 4 Training Test Judges

4.1 Classification of Training Judges

- 4.1.1 Training Test Judges are eligible to judge all training tests defined in the Training Ordinance unless otherwise specified.
- 4.1.2 Begleithund (BH) Test Judges are only eligible to judge Begleithund (BH/VT) tests.

- 4.1.3 Endurance (IAD) Test Judges are only eligible to judge Endurance (IAD) tests.
- 4.1.4 The Training Test Judges Panel shall consist of all judges defined in paragraphs 4.1.1 and 4.1.2.

4.2 Appointment of Aspirant Training Test Judges

- 4.2.1 The candidate is invited to become an aspirant Endurance Test (IAD) or a Begleithund Test (BH-VT) Judge by the Breed Judges Committee and a Training Test Judge by the Training Judges Committee
- 4.2.2 If the invitation is accepted, the applicant must write a theoretical examination under the Chairman of the relative Judges Committee or an appointed committee member.
- 4.2.3 Examinations will be based on an applicable syllabus provided by the relative Judges Committee.

4.3 Minimum Qualifications

- 4.3.1 The candidate must be a fully paid-up *bona fide* member of the Federation.
- 4.3.2 In the case of Training Test Judges, the candidate must have owned, trained, qualified and competed with at least one German Shepherd Dog up to and including IGP 3, or equivalent level, or be a BH judge that has judged at least 60 dogs spread over at least 10 BH/VT tests.

In the case of Endurance Test Judges, the candidate must have owned, trained, qualified and participated in Endurance Tests with at least three German Shepherd Dogs.

- 4.3.3 The candidate must be at least 28 years.
- 4.3.4 The candidate must have been involved in German Shepherd Dog training matters in a German Shepherd Dog specialist club, recognised by the Federation, and have trained German Shepherd Dogs, for at least three (3) years.

4.4 Format of Aspirant Judge's Course

- 4.4.1 In the case of a Training Test Judge, the candidate has to pass five practical examinations under members of the Training Test Judges Committee with the following provisos:

In the case of a Begleithund Test (BH-VT) Judge, the candidate has to pass 3 (three) practical examinations under at least two members of the Training Test Judges Committee or the National Training Supervisor, provided he/she is an accredited BH-VT judge, or another experienced BH-VT judge(s) appointed by him/her .

In the case of an Endurance Test Judge (IAD), the candidate has to pass 2 (two) practical examination under a Senior Breed Judge.

- 4.4.2 Immediately after each examination, the officiating judge must submit a report, together with the aspirant judge's original marking sheets, to the Chairperson of the Training Test Judges Committee.
- 4.4.3 The chairman of the Training Test Judges Committee may determine the format in which the Candidate must do each trial.
- 4.4.4 The practical examinations must be done over a minimum period of not less than twenty-four (24) months and not longer than thirty (30) months in the case of a Training Test Judge and not less than six (6) month and not longer than twelve (12) months in the case of a Begleithund Test Judge.
- 4.4.5 If the candidate fails more than two (2) of the practical examinations in the case of a Training Test Judge, the candidate's name will be removed from the list of aspirant judges. In the case of a Begleithund Test Judge the candidate must pass all three (3) of the practical examinations.
- 4.4.6 At no time may there be more than two aspirant judges on the field with an officiating judge. This is not applicable to Endurance Tests in which case the number of aspirant judges is unlimited.
- 4.4.7 The name of an aspirant judge who is absent from an arranged examination without a valid reason will be removed from the list of aspirant judges.

4.5 Syllabus of Aspirant Training Test Judge's Course

- 4.5.1 The Candidate must judge the trial independently and the officiating judge must instruct and test the following in respect of the candidate:
 - a) Understanding and application of the rules;
 - b) Ability to give objective and structured verbal critiques to an audience;
 - c) Etiquette on the field;
 - d) General knowledge of the German Shepherd Dog and the judging thereof.

- 4.5.2 At least four (4) dogs must be present at a trial where a candidate is doing a practical examination for the day. If the trial has fewer dogs, the examination for the day will be regarded as an exercise and will not be counted towards the qualification.

4.6 Appointment of Training Test Judges

- 4.6.1 The name of a candidate who has successfully fulfilled all the obligations as set out in section 1 will be presented to the relative Judges Committee for final approval.
- 4.6.2 SV/WUSV judges who emigrate to South Africa, become fully paid-up bona fide members of the Federation and are of good standing, will automatically become members of the Federation Training Test Judges Panel, provided they inform the Chairman, in writing, of their intent to continue judging.
- 4.6.3 Judges from other recognised bodies, who join the Federation as *bona fide* members, may also become Federation Training Test Judges. Such persons must apply in writing and include a CV to the Chairman of the Training Test Judges Committee. The applicant's name will be presented to the Training Test Judges Committee. Additional requirements may be mandated for final accreditation.
- 4.6.4 The Training Judges Committee may appoint current and former SV Training Test Judges who do not reside in South Africa as Foreign Based Judges

4.7 Maintaining Status as a Training Test Judge

- 4.7.1 If a member of the Federation's Training Test Judges Panel has failed to renew his membership, all privileges and rights as a member of the Training Test Judges Panel shall cease. If the membership fees remain unpaid for longer than one (1) year, the member's name will be removed from the Training Test Judges Panel.
- 4.7.2 All applications to the Training Test Judges Committee must be made through the Administration.
- 4.7.3 Members of the Training Test Judge's panel must partake and pass refresher courses as determined from time to time by the Training Test Judges Committee.
- 4.7.4 Judges must write a short resume on their activities for the past year. These resumes should also include impressions and ideas to improve the quality of trials and competitions. They should be addressed to the chairman of the Training Test Judges Committee and forwarded not later than January the following year.

- 4.7.5 Judges must ensure that they continue to comply with the minimum qualifications for aspirant judges as set out above. If the minimum qualifications change, existing judges on the panel have 3 years to achieve those qualifications.
- 4.7.6 Judges who fail to maintain the requirements within this section may be removed from the panel by the Training Test Judges Committee.
- 4.7.7 All Training Judges who have not had an appointment for a period of 2 years will automatically be placed on the "Retired" Judges Panel. Provided they are younger than the 70-year-old retirement age, they may be re-instated to "active" on completion of a refresher course, content of which will be determined by the judges committee from time to time.

4.8 Re-Appointment of Training Test Judges

- 4.8.1 The relevant Judges Committee may re-appoint Judges that have been removed from the panel if they again comply with the regulations.
- 4.8.2 The relevant Judges Committee may set additional requirements before reinstatement if the committee deems it necessary.

4.9 Appointment as a Senior Training Test Judge

- 4.9.1 The applicant must be a member of the Training Test Judges Panel.
- 4.9.2 The applicant must have judged
- a) At least ten official Training Tests of which a minimum of six must been IGP trials, or equivalent.
 - b) A minimum of 40 dogs in IGP or equivalent of which at least six dogs were in IGP3 or equivalent level.
- 4.9.3 The applicant must have been involved in the training of German Shepherd Dogs for IGP or equivalent for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 4.9.4 The Training Test Judges Committee have the right to refuse approval if there are good grounds to that the applicant's appointment would not be in the best interest of the Federation.